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If former President Eisenhower can have his way, the Republican party will not choose Sen. Barry Goldwater as its 1964 Presidential nominee.

There is, in my judgment, no other realistic interpretation of the strongly-worded political statement which he has issued on the eve of the crucial California primary.

It is true that Gen. Eisenhower states that he has no wish to "dictate the nomination." And he doesn't. It would be entirely out of character.

But Gen. Eisenhower appeals to the Republican party

to nominate a Presidential candidate who will stand "whole-heartedly" on a platform of "forward-looking Republicanism" which Sen. Goldwater has criticized so wholeheartedly in the past.

It is true that Gen. Eisenhower leaves no doubt that he will support any Republican nominee over President Johnson in the coming campaign, because he is a loyal party man.

But Gen. Eisenhower calls on the Republican convention to pledge itself to continue the Eisenhower administration record, and to carry

forward programs which Sen. Goldwater almost invariably opposes when the voting showdown comes in the Senate.

It is true that Gen. Eisenhower did not and will not disclose his personal choice for the nomination because he does not believe it a "proper role" for him to use his position to try to enforce his preference on the convention.

But he has now bluntly, forcefully, and eloquently, laid down a definition of the kind of candidate he hopes his party will nominate, and his definition clearly fits every other Republican candidate except Sen. Goldwater.

There is no doubt that his statement will be interpreted that way by nearly every Republican leader and most Republican voters.

Gen. Eisenhower will not be surprised. I am sure he knows what he is doing.

"I do fervently hope," he says in the statement which was written at the invitation of the New York Herald Tribune, "that the person selected to lead our party in the coming campaign will be a man who will uphold, earnestly, with dedication and convictions, the principles and traditions of our party."

Is Gen. Eisenhower laying down a vague bas-relief of

the "traditions" which he feels should have the wholehearted backing of the 1964 Republican nominee? The answer is that Gen. Eisenhower is as aware, as are other Republican leaders, that of the 25 major policy positions enunciated in the 1960 Republican national platform, Sen. Goldwater is listed as opposing all 25.

He is quite aware to, that his definition of the kind of candidate he hopes the San Francisco convention will choose does not fit the man who opposed Republican policies during the eight years the Republicans had a Republican President in the White House.

Gen. Eisenhower is specific himself. He proudly cites the Republican determination "not to shrink from a recognition that there are national problems which require national solutions"—even when these solutions require enlarging the role of the Federal government.

He puts concrete substance into his definition of the desirable Republican nominee by stressing these social-welfare measures which the Eisenhower administration brought to fruition:

"But we do not shrink from a recognition that there are national problems that require national solutions. When the yalrse, we act.

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